



METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY



THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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DATA FOR DECEMBER 1989

FEBRUARY 1990

D.C. Unemployment Up In December But Still Below 5%

December Area Job Creation Slowest in Past 5 Years

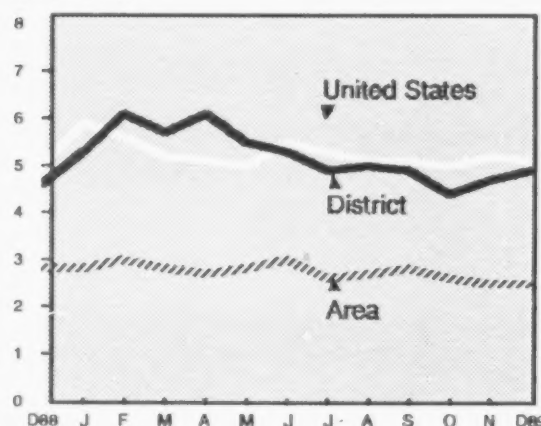
Labor Force

The District of Columbia's unemployment rate rose moderately from 4.7 percent in November to 4.9 percent in December. Despite the small seasonal increase, the 4.9 percent jobless rate represents the second lowest rate for the month of December in more than 18 years, exceeded only by the 4.6 percent recorded in December 1988. The unemployment rates in the suburbs and the Washington Area remained unchanged from November at 2.1 percent for all suburban jurisdictions and 2.5 percent for the Washington Area as a whole. The unadjusted civilian unemployment rate for all American workers in December was 5.1 percent. This represents the seventh consecutive month that the District's rate has been below that for the nation.

The District

During December, the number of working District residents was 310,100, or 2,600 fewer than in November. Unemployment in December

Unemployment Rates
December 1988 - December 1989
% of labor force

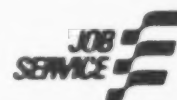


increased by 600 to bring the total number of residents on the unemployment rolls to 15,900. This was the second lowest level of unemployment in the District during December in the past eighteen years. However, an additional 2,000 other people who left the labor force probably represents the beginning of a seasonal labor force contraction that generally follows the holiday employment expansion.

Continued on page 3



Government of the
District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor



Department of
Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

**The
Department
of
Employment
Services

Working
to
keep
Washington
working.**

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.



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THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR DECEMBER 1989

FEBRUARY 1990

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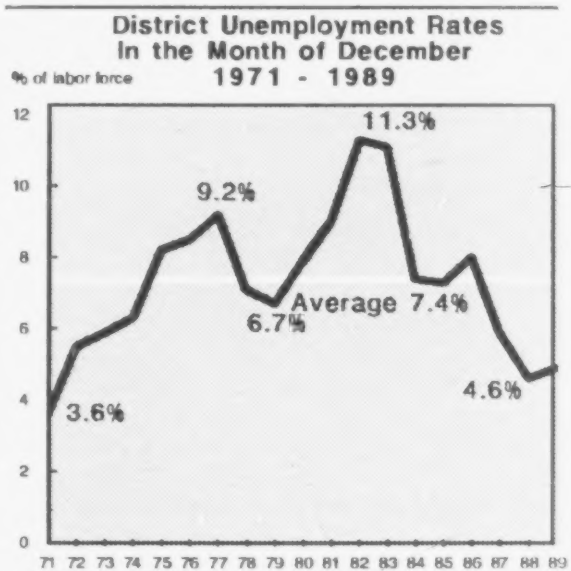
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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling: (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

Compared to December 1988, there were 8,000 fewer District workers on employers' payrolls and 7,600 fewer in the labor force. This represents a 2.3 percent decline in the size of the labor force and a 2.5 percent decline in people with jobs. Thus, labor force participation by District residents has declined this year from the high levels of a year ago. On the other hand, the unemployment level over the year has remained relatively constant, increasing by only 400 persons. Because of the decline in the size of the labor force, however, the unemployment rate this December registered 4.9 percent compared to the 4.6 percent in December 1988.



The Area & Suburbs

Like in the District, the suburban labor force also registered a seasonal decline, but the decline of 700 workers was much smaller than in the District. In fact, suburban employment actually registered a small increase of 300 workers bringing the number of working suburbanites to over 1.9 million. As a result of the small labor force decline and increase in employment, the

number of suburban jobless declined by 900 and the unemployment rate remained unchanged from November at 2.1 percent.

Compared to December 1988, there were 90,300 more suburbanites with jobs. This expansion of employment was slightly more (300), than the growth in the labor force, so an additional 200 workers were drawn from the unemployment rolls resulting in an over-the-year decline in the unemployment rate of one tenth of a percentage point.

Combined activity in the District and the suburbs produced a Washington Area labor force of nearly 2.3 million workers of which 97.5 percent held jobs. This means that the pool of jobless workers numbered 56,900, or only 2.5 percent of all Area residents seeking work.

Over the year, 82,400 new workers entered the Area's job market and virtually the same number (82,300) found jobs. This resulted in a very small increase of 200 in the level of unemployment and a decrease in the unemployment rate of one tenth of a percentage point. Thus, over the year, labor force statistics show declines in the number of District residents both in the labor market and employed, offset by larger increases in the suburban labor force and employment. The level of unemployment in both the District and the suburbs has remained virtually unchanged from last year. Thus, the Area continues to have a tight labor market.

CENSUS '90



D.C. IS COUNTING ON YOU

**Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
December 1989^a**

	Dec. b 1989	Nov. c 1989	Dec. d 1988	Nov. d 1988	Net Change From	
					Nov. c 1989	Dec. 1988
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	326,000	328,000	333,600	331,700	-2,000	-7,600
Total Employed	310,100	312,700	318,100	317,300	-2,600	-8,000
Total Unemployed	15,900	15,300	15,500	14,400	600	400
Unemployment Rate ^e	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.4	0.2	0.3
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,959,500	1,960,200	1,869,500	1,880,100	-700	90,000
Total Employed	1,918,600	1,918,300	1,828,300	1,832,800	300	90,300
Total Unemployed	41,000	41,900	41,200	47,300	-900	-200
Unemployment Rate ^e	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.5	—	-0.1
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,285,500	2,288,200	2,203,100	2,211,800	-2,700	82,400
Total Employed	2,228,700	2,231,000	2,146,400	2,150,100	-2,300	82,300
Total Unemployed	56,900	57,200	56,700	61,700	-300	200
Unemployment Rate ^e	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.8	—	-0.1

a. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.
d. Data reflects Benchmark Revisions. e. Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park, the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford, and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Characteristics of the
Insured Unemployed**

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits totaled 8,764 in December 1989, up 119 claimants from November. In December, 54 percent of all UI recipients were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 25 percent of the total claimants. This was followed by clerical and sales with 24 percent. Service workers ranked third accounting for 23 percent of the claimants.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.5 weeks for all claimants in December. Over the month, the duration for males fell from 10.1 weeks to 9.1 weeks. For females, the duration declined from 10.4 weeks to 10.0 weeks. In December 1988, the average duration for males was 9.0 weeks and for females 9.1 weeks.

**Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
December 1989 & December 1988
(percent)**

	Labor Force	Employed December 1989	Unemployed
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.3	13.9	27.9
Suburbs	85.7	86.1	72.1
December 1988			
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.1	14.8	27.3
Suburbs	84.9	85.2	72.7

**Unemployment Rates in the
Washington, D.C. MSA
by City and County**

	Dec. a 1989	Nov. b 1989	Dec. b 1988
District of Columbia	4.9	4.7	4.6
Calvert County	3.1	2.9	3.1
Prince Georges County	2.9	2.9	3.1
Frederick County	2.8	2.2	2.4
Charles County	2.2	2.3	2.2
Stafford County	2.2	2.2	2.0
Alexandria City	2.1	2.0	2.1
Montgomery County	2.0	2.1	2.1
Prince William County	1.9	1.9	1.8
Arlington County	1.7	1.7	1.8
Fairfax County	1.6	1.7	1.7
Manassas City	1.6	1.6	1.8
Loudoun County	1.5	1.6	1.5
Fairfax City	1.4	1.7	1.8
Fall Church City	1.3	1.6	1.9
Manassas Park City	1.1	1.4	1.5

a. Preliminary

b. Revised

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Job Growth

The District

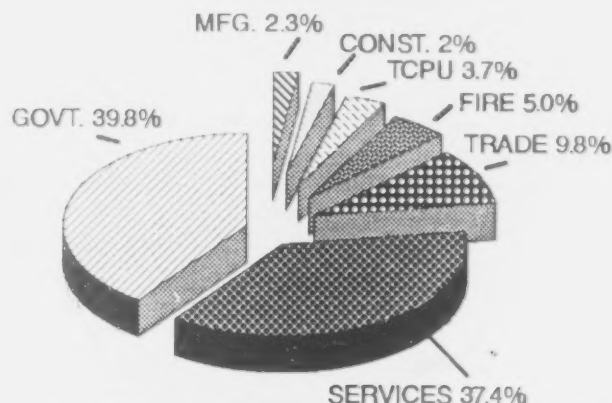
The number of jobs in the District increased by 3,800 for a gain of 0.5 percent between November and December. The public sector was responsible for 71 percent of the growth with seasonal gains in Federal Government (1,700 jobs) and State and Local Government (1,100 jobs).

The private sector increased by 1,100 jobs with gains in Services (900 jobs) and Retail Trade (700 jobs). Seasonal growth related to the holiday shopping season was primarily responsible for the Retail Trade increase while Business Services (500 jobs) was primarily responsible for the Services growth.

Over the year (December 1988 to December 1989), the number of District jobs increased 2.4 percent for a gain of 16,500 jobs. The private sector grew at a rate of 3.1 percent, generating 12,500 jobs and accounting for three-fourth's of all new jobs. The leading job producer, Services, contributed 11,200 jobs and accounted for 90 percent of private sector growth. The major components of Services growth were All Other Services (3,200 jobs), Business Services (2,800 jobs), Health Services (1,900 jobs) and Legal Services (1,800 jobs). Wholesale and Retail Trade generated an additional 1,300 jobs.

The public sector increased 1.5 percent with growth in Federal Government (4,100 jobs).

Distribution of District Jobs December 1989



The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased 0.2 percent for a gain of 2,700 jobs between November and December. The private sector accounted for the growth with seasonal gains in Wholesale and Retail Trade (9,100 jobs) partially offset by a weather related reduction in Construction (5,600 jobs). The Maryland and Virginia suburbs, shared equally in these fluctuations.

The public sector declined 0.3 percent with reductions in State and Local Government (1,700 jobs) partially offset by a gain in Federal Government (600 jobs). Eighty-eight percent of the loss

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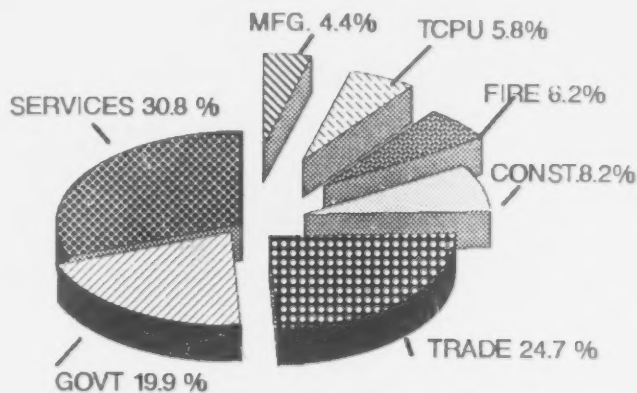
in State and Local Government occurred in the Maryland suburbs while the Federal growth was equally divided between the two areas.

Over the Year (December 1988 to December 1989), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 3.5 percent for a gain of 53,500 jobs. The Virginia suburbs grew at a rate of 5.6 percent accounting for 80 percent of suburban growth while the Maryland suburbs increased at a rate of 1.4 percent.

The private sector accounted for 82 percent of suburban growth with the major job producers, Services (21,700 jobs) and Trade (12,400 jobs), responsible for 77 percent of private sector growth. Eighty-six percent of the Services growth and 69 percent of the Trade growth occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for three-fourths of the growth in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (6,300 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (4,800 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 3.1 percent with gains in both Federal Government (3,200 jobs) and State and Local Government (6,300 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for all of the Federal growth and half of the State and Local government gain.

**Distribution of Suburban Jobs
December 1989**



The Area

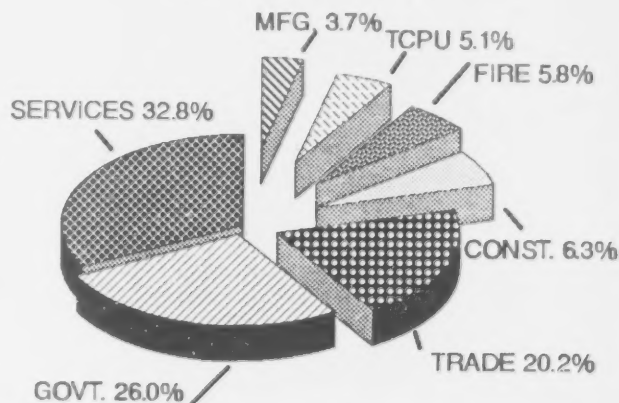
The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 6,500 jobs between November and December for an increase of 0.3 percent. The private sector was responsible for 74 percent of the growth with seasonal gains in Trade (9,800 jobs) partially offset by a seasonal loss in Construction (5,900 jobs). The Construction decline was larger than normal due to the severe weather conditions in December.

The public sector increased by 0.3 percent with seasonal gains in Federal Government (2,200 jobs) partially offset by a loss in State and Local Government (600 jobs).

Over the year (December 1988 to December 1989), the Area grew at a rate of 3.2 percent for a gain of 70,000 jobs. The private sector grew at a rate of 3.5 percent, generating 56,600 jobs and producing 81 percent of all new area jobs. The leading job contributors, Services (32,900 jobs) and Trade (13,700 jobs), accounted for 82 percent of all new private sector jobs. Significant private sector growth was also produced by Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (6,400 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (5,000 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 2.3 percent with growth in both Federal Government (7,100 jobs) and State and Local Government (6,200 jobs).

**Distribution of Area Jobs
December 1989**



Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work^a
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Dec. 6 1989	Nov. 6 1989	Dec. 6 1988	Dec. 6 1989	Nov. 6 1989	Dec. 6 1988
TOTAL	698.7	694.9	682.2	2,290.4	2,283.9	2,220.4
Total Private Sector	419.5	418.4	407.0	1,694.2	1,689.4	1,637.6
Total Government	279.2	276.5	275.2	596.2	594.5	582.8
Manufacturing	15.9	16.1	16.3	85.8	86.2	87.7
Total Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	40.6	40.7	42.0
Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.3	3.3	3.4
Electrical & Electronic Machinery, Equip., & Supp.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.5	18.4	19.2
All Other Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.8	19.0	19.3
Total Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	45.2	45.5	45.7
Food & Kindred Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.7	4.8	4.6
Printing & Publishing	13.2	13.3	13.3	34.8	35.0	35.4
All Other Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.7	5.6	5.8
All Other Manufacturing	2.7	2.7	3.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Construction	13.2	13.6	13.1	144.0	149.9	143.5
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	25.4	25.5	25.3	117.9	116.9	111.5
Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.0	5.0	5.0
Transportation ex. Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	59.0	58.2	53.8
All Transportation	9.8	9.8	9.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Communication & Public Utilities	15.6	15.7	15.7	53.9	53.7	52.7
Trade	69.4	68.7	68.1	461.8	452.0	448.1
Wholesale	9.4	9.3	9.0	77.6	77.3	76.7
Retail	60.0	59.3	59.2	384.2	374.7	371.4
General Merchandise	5.0	5.0	4.7	50.9	47.7	47.1
Food	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.8	49.9	48.2
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.5	38.7	38.9
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	30.5	28.9	30.7
Eating & Drinking Places	28.8	29.0	28.7	119.2	119.0	115.1
All Other Retail	26.1	25.4	25.8	94.3	90.6	91.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	34.8	34.9	34.6	133.4	133.7	128.4
Banking	6.9	6.9	6.8	25.6	25.3	23.9
All Other	27.9	28.0	27.8	107.9	108.4	104.5
Services	260.6	259.7	249.4	750.2	749.5	717.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	16.4	16.6	15.8	39.6	39.8	37.0
Personal Services	4.2	4.2	4.0	23.7	23.4	23.6
Business Services	59.7	59.2	56.9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.2	6.1	5.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.7	37.4	35.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

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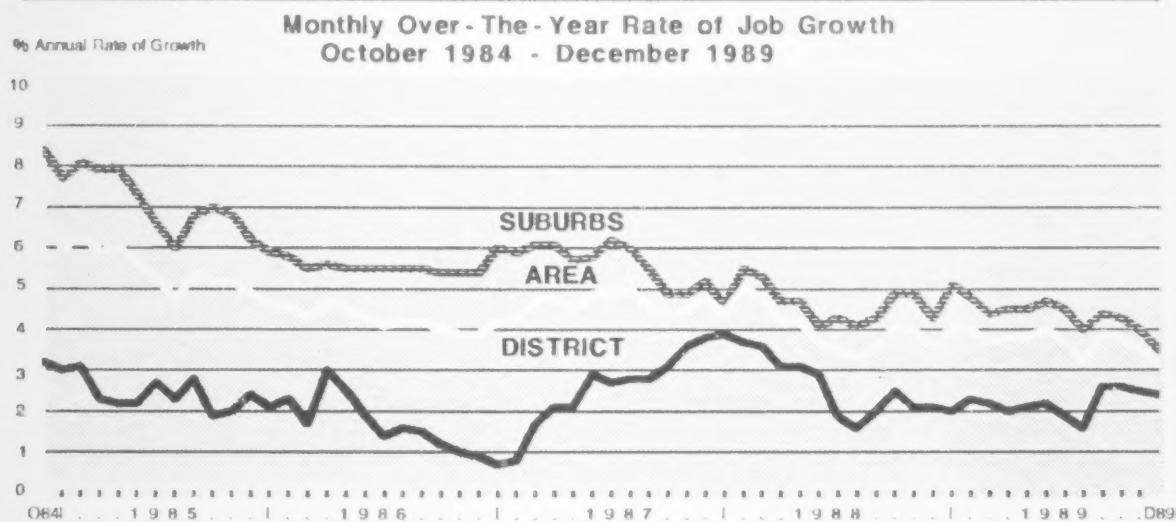
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work^a (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Dec. ^b 1989	Nov. ^c 1989	Dec. ^c 1988	Dec. ^b 1989	Nov. ^c 1989	Dec. ^c 1988
Legal Services	29.8	29.6	28.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Membership Organizations	33.5	33.2	32.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Other Services	79.4	79.6	76.2	687.0	686.3	656.8
Government	279.2	276.5	275.2	596.2	594.5	582.8
Federal Government	222.3	220.6	218.2	368.1	365.9	361.0
State & Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	228.0	228.6	221.8
Public Transportation	51.8	50.7	52.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Transportation	5.2	5.2	4.9	N/A	N/A	N/A

a. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.

Data includes all full- and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past 62 months, (October 1984 to December 1989), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 4.6 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has been steadily declining after peaking at 6.8 percent in December 1984. Between December 1988 and December 1989, the Area's job growth slowed to 3.2 percent. *This was the smallest monthly over-the-year growth in all the 62-months.* The over-the-year rate this December was also smaller than the 3.6 percent recorded in December of last year.

The Suburban portion of the Area is still the generator of most new jobs, having grown over the past year at a rate of 3.5 percent, but at the slowest pace of any of the 62-monthly measurements. Compared to the same period last year, growth was slower than the 4.3 percent registered in December 1988. Over the past year, the District proper has added new jobs at a rate of 2.4 percent and the same as its 62-month average. In December 1988, the annual job creation rate in the City was 2.1 percent.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 120,200 new jobs produced between December 1983 and December 1984, to 70,000 between December 1988 and December 1989. Over the past year, 53,500 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy and 16,500 in the District. **The Washington Area continues to create new jobs at a faster pace than the U.S. economy (3.2 percent vs. 2.3 percent for the U.S. economy).**

Job Service...

Job Bank

- A system to list your jobs for quick, efficient referrals

Notice of Relocation

The Department has relocated one of its seven Employment Centers from

8th & Xenia Streets, S.E. to:
4049 South Capitol Street, S.W.



The relocation was the result of continuing Departmental actions taken to enhance services. The new location is more directly accessible to public transportation, a convenience for the hundreds of citizens living in the Anacostia community who annually take advantage of our free employment related services.

Profile of Job Growth Rates October 1984 to December 1989

The Area

Average 62 months	4.6%
High, December 1984	6.8%
Low, December 1989	3.2%
1-year ago	3.6%
Current month	3.2%

The Suburbs

Average 62 months	5.6%
High, January 1985	8.4%
Low, December 1989	3.5%
1-year ago	4.3%
Current month	3.5%

The District

Average 62 months	2.4%
High, October 1984	4.4%
Low, January 1987	0.7%
1-year ago	2.1%
Current month	2.4%

LABOR FORCE PROFILE:

Black Unemployment Rates in the United States The District and Selected Central Cities, 1983-1988

Blacks comprised two thirds of the working age population in the District in 1988, and had an unemployment rate of 6.7 percent. This rate was down from a record high of 15.8 percent in 1983 during the peak of the 1980's recessions. Thus, blacks in the District have recorded significant labor market improvements during the first six years of economic expansion.

This Profile compares black unemployment rates in the District to black unemployment rates in the nation and other central cities during the period 1983 to 1988. The data are annual average unemployment rates from the Current Population Survey (CPS) as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in their annual editions of *Geographic Profiles of Employment and Unemployment*. Geographic Profiles for the years 1983 through 1988 contain data for blacks in ten central cities where black working age populations ranged from a high of 78.8 percent of the total population in Detroit to a low of 21.0 percent in Milwaukee.

Total and Black Populations*
1988

	Total	Black	Percent
Detroit	808	637	78.8
District	473	315	66.6
Baltimore	584	334	57.2
St. Louis	327	147	45.0
Cleveland	409	175	42.0
Chicago	2297	906	39.4
Philadelphia	1298	485	37.4
Dallas	756	230	30.4
Houston	1278	335	26.2
New York	5841	1496	25.6
Milwaukee	461	97	21.0

*Civilian Non-Institutional
Population 16+

When black unemployment rates for the ten cities and the District were averaged for the years 1983 to 1988, the District recorded the lowest rate. The 10.8 percent average registered in the District was lower than the 15.0 percent

average for all black workers in the United States. In fact, in each of the six years, the District's black rate was below that for the nation. Detroit had the highest average six year rate at 26.1 percent, a rate more than twice the District's.

Between 1983 and 1988, the black unemployment rate in the District declined 9.0 percentage points compared to 7.8 percent for all black workers across the nation. The largest decline occurred in Philadelphia where the rate dropped 14.5 points over six years. The smallest reduction was recorded in Dallas where the black rate fell only 1.6 points.

For the past two years (1987-1988), the black rate in the District has been below double digits. The same was also true in New York. Philadelphia recorded the most years (three) below double digits. However, the 6.7 percent rate recorded in the District in 1988 was the lowest yearly rate registered by any city in any of the years studied.

Black Unemployment Rates by Sex

Of the eight central cities with data by sex, the District recorded the lowest average unemployment for black males. In each of the six years, the black male rate in the District was also lower than the U.S. rate. The largest decline (16.2 percentage points) in black male rates occurred in Philadelphia. The second largest decrease (12.3 points) was in the District. The smallest decline (2.8 points) was recorded in Dallas. In 1988, the District's black male unemployment rate averaged 7.0 percent. This was the lowest yearly rate in any year or city, some 4.7 percentage points below the 1988 average for all black males in the nation.

The six year average unemployment rate for black females in the District (10.0 percent) was the second lowest in the nation. New York City at (9.1 percent) was first. Compared to black females in the nation, the average in the District

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Continued from page 10

was 4.7 percentage points below the national average. The largest decline in the black female rate between 1983 and 1988 occurred in Detroit, where the rate dropped 13.6 percentage points. The smallest decline occurred in Dallas, where the rate dropped only three tenths of a percentage point. Interestingly, in Baltimore, the black female rate actually increased by 3.1 points between 1983 and 1988. Baltimore was the only city where any black rate increased over the six year period.

Black Teenage Unemployment Rates

Only in the District did CPS data for black youth (16-19 year olds) meet BLS standards for publication in all six years. However, black teenage unemployment rates in the District can be compared to the rates for the same group at the national level.

Black Youth Unemployment Rates In the United States & the District 1983 to 1988 (annual averages)

	United States	The District
1983	48.5%	52.4%
1984	42.7	40.5
1985	40.2	34.8
1986	39.3	31.1
1987	34.7	22.4
1988	32.4	22.6

Thus, the black teenage unemployment rate in the District exceeded the national average in only one year (1983). Over the six years, the District's black teenage rate declined by a remarkable 29.8 percentage points as compared to 16.1 points for all black youths in the nation. This decline and the lower rates probably reflect the investment the District makes in employment and training programs for its youth.

Observations

In the six years following the 1980's recessions, unemployment among District Blacks have been lower when compared to blacks in the nation and ten other central cities. The black male and black female rates were lower in the District than in the Nation. In comparison to other central

cities, black male rates in the District were the lowest and the black female rates the second lowest. Black youth unemployment in the District compares favorably with the six-year experience of black teenagers across the nation. Thus, the recent labor market experience of most black residents of the District has been one of the best in the nation.

CENSUS '90 JOBS



D.C. IS COUNTING ON YOU

The U.S. Bureau of Census is recruiting hundreds of people for **full-time and part-time jobs** to conduct the 21st Decennial Census of the United States this spring.

All persons hired to work on the Census in the District will be District residents. Jobs will pay from \$6.75 to \$9.50 per hour. Some more. Early evening and Saturday work is also available. All applicants must complete an application and take a short written test. No car is necessary.

Census Jobs include:

- Enumerators • Crew Leaders
- Clerks • Supervisory Office Clerks
- Payroll/Personnel Clerks
- Stock & Supply Assistants
- Data Transcribers

Persons interested in applying should visit one of the following Department of Employment Service's Employment Centers:

- 1000 U Street, N.W.
- 25 K Street, N.E.
- 4049 South Capitol Street, S.W.
- 4210 Kansas Avenue, N.W.
- 1803 Belmont Road, N.W.
(The Latino Center)
- 1217 Good Hope Road, S.E.
- 4017 Minnesota Avenue, N.E.

Continued on page 12

**Black Unemployment Rates in the United States,
The District and Selected Central Cities
1983-1988**

(annual averages—percent of labor force)

	Average	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Detroit	26.1	30.2	30.1	30.7	24.7	22.8	18.0
Milwaukee	22.8	26.7	21.4	28.3	27.1	18.8	14.5
Chicago	22.7	27.0	22.6	26.5	23.2	17.2	19.5
Cleveland	20.5	23.1	20.3	22.3	23.4	18.5	15.5
St. Louis	20.1	27.6	28.7	16.3	14.6	19.3	14.0
Houston	19.0	21.7	16.5	14.3	19.6	24.6	17.4
United States	15.0	19.5	15.9	15.1	14.5	13.0	11.7
Baltimore	14.4	17.1	12.7	16.6	11.8	13.7	14.5
Philadelphia	14.0	23.7	20.5	12.8	9.2	8.5	9.2
Dallas	11.3	11.5	9.6	11.3	14.2	11.4	9.9
New York	11.3	13.9	13.7	11.5	12.4	9.1	7.3
District	10.8	15.8	12.1	11.4	10.4	8.4	6.7

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Geographic Profiles of Employment and Unemployment* (selected years).

**Black Male unemployment Rates in the United States,
The District and Selected Central Cities
1983-1988**

(annual averages—percent of labor force)

	Average	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Detroit	26.6	30.6	31.7	29.9	24.8	23.1	19.7
Chicago	23.6	26.7	22.8	27.5	25.0	18.9	20.8
Houston	19.2	23.1	17.0	14.2	20.8	23.2	16.9
Baltimore	16.6	20.7	17.9	19.8	14.0	14.8	12.3
United States	15.2	20.3	16.4	15.3	14.8	12.7	11.7
Philadelphia	14.7	26.2	15.8	14.2	11.7	10.1	10.0
New York	13.5	16.9	15.1	13.5	15.8	11.1	8.5
Dallas	12.0	11.9	10.2	11.6	14.1	14.9	9.1
District	11.6	19.3	12.7	11.5	10.6	8.4	7.0

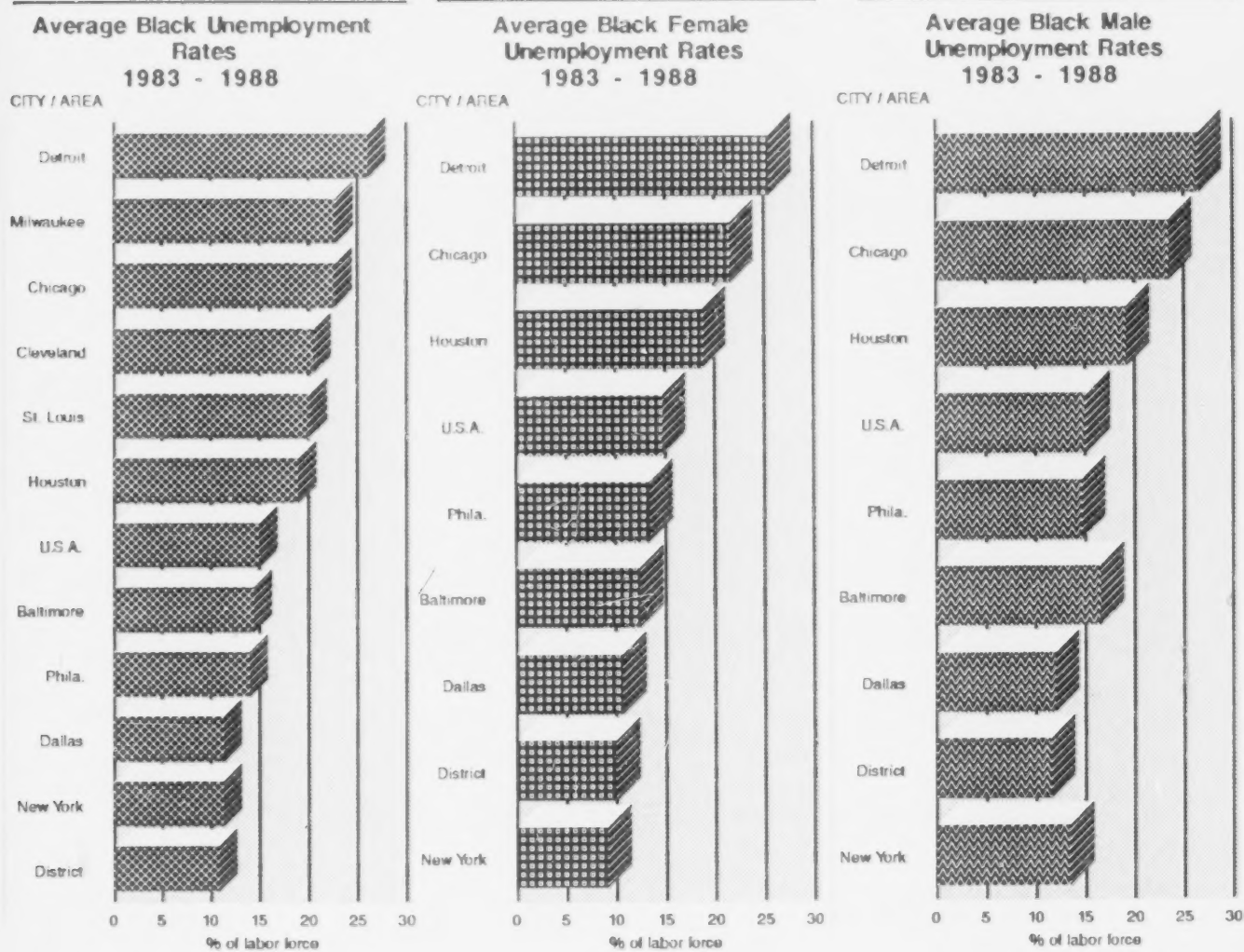
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Geographic Profiles of Employment and Unemployment* (selected years).

**Black Female Unemployment Rates in the United States,
The District and Selected Central Cities
1983-1988**

(annual averages—percent of labor force)

	Average	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Detroit	25.5	29.8	28.4	31.6	24.6	22.4	16.2
Chicago	21.6	27.3	22.4	25.3	21.2	15.3	18.2
Houston	18.8	20.1	15.9	14.4	18.4	26.0	18.0
United States	14.7	18.6	15.4	14.9	14.2	13.2	11.7
Philadelphia	13.4	21.5	25.3	11.4	6.6	7.0	8.5
Baltimore	12.4	13.6	7.8	13.6	10.0	12.7	16.7
Dallas	10.7	11.0	8.9	11.0	14.3	8.5	10.7
District	10.0	12.3	11.6	11.3	10.2	8.4	6.4
New York	9.1	10.8	12.2	9.5	9.0	7.2	6.1

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Geographic Profiles of Employment and Unemployment* (selected years).



Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In November 1989, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 257 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's unemployment rate was 2.5 percent down from the 2.6 percent recorded in October. This was the ninth lowest of all 257 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.8 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 2.5 percent was the lowest of all the major metropolitan areas. Areas with the next lowest rates were in San Francisco (2.6 percent), Minneapolis-St. Paul (3.0 percent), Salt Lake City (3.3 percent), and Milwaukee and Boston (3.4 percent each). A year ago, their rates were 3.2 percent, 2.8 percent, 4.6 percent, 3.0 percent and 3.0 percent, respectively. Boston's rate seems to be huddling around 3.5 percent, same as October's. However, the Boston rate was down 0.5 percentage point over the month.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, posted a November jobless rate of 3.4 percent down from the 4.0 percent registered in October, but the same as September's rate. A year ago, the Richmond-Petersburg rate was 3.6 percent.

The Baltimore area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a November jobless rate of 4.0 percent up from 3.9 percent recorded in October. Baltimore's rate seems to be on the downturn. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 4.3 percent.

Of the 257 metropolitan areas for which October data are available, 36 had over-the-year decreases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more, and 37 had increases of that magnitude. Eighty areas had rates below 4 percent, while 19 had rates higher than 8 percent or more.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Major Metropolitan Statistical Areas*

MSA	November	
	1989*	1988
1. Washington, D.C.	2.5	2.8
2. San Francisco, CA	2.6	3.2
3. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	3.0	2.8
4. Salt Lake City, UT	3.3	3.6
5. Milwaukee, WI	3.4	3.0
6. Boston, MA	3.4	3.0
7. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.4	3.6
8. San Diego, CA	3.4	4.1
9. Nashville, TN	3.5	3.8
10. Oakland, CA	3.5	4.3
11. Phoenix, AR	3.8	4.8
12. Seattle, WA	3.9	4.3
13. Oklahoma City, OK	3.9	4.5
14. Indianapolis, IN	3.9	4.5
15. Baltimore, MD	4.0	4.3
16. Memphis, TN	4.0	4.6
17. Philadelphia, PA	4.1	3.6
18. Portland, OR	4.1	4.0
19. Sacramento, CA	4.1	5.2
20. Denver, CO	4.3	5.7
21. Kansas City, MO	4.4	5.0
22. Cincinnati, OH	4.7	4.6
23. Newark, NJ	4.8	3.6
24. Pittsburgh, PA	4.8	4.7
25. Jackson, MS	4.8	6.6
26. Buffalo, NY	5.0	5.1
27. Louisville, KY	5.1	5.1
28. Birmingham, AL	5.1	5.9
29. Los Angeles, CA	5.2	4.5
30. Columbus, OH	5.2	4.8
31. Cleveland, OH	5.3	4.9
32. Gary, IN	5.4	5.3
33. St. Louis, MO	5.5	5.7
34. Dayton, OH	5.6	4.7
35. Atlanta, GA	5.6	4.8
36. Dallas, TX	5.6	5.3
37. Miami, FL	5.8	6.4
38. New York, NY	5.9	4.5
39. Chicago, IL	5.9	6.0
40. Houston, TX	6.0	5.9
41. Montgomery, AL	6.1	5.6
42. Detroit, MI	6.4	6.4
43. New Orleans, LA	6.5	9.3

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a November preliminary unemployment rate of 4.7 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twenty-sixth highest jobless rate in the country. This was three notches below October's standing. Virginia's rate at 4.1 percent was unchanged from October. Maryland's rate at 3.6 percent was up from the 3.5 percent recorded in October. Virginia and Maryland ranked thirty-eighth and forty-fourth, respectively, in the standings of the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, the rates in Virginia and Maryland were both 4.0 percent.

Six states reported over-the-year declines of more than 1.0 percentage point in their unemployment rate. The largest reductions were in Louisiana (3.2 percentage points) and Alaska and Mississippi (both 2.2 points). Over-the-year increases of more than 1.0 percentage point occurred in three states—New Hampshire (1.8 points), Rhode Island (1.6 points), and New Jersey (1.2 points).

November unemployment rates were 4 percent or less in 12 states. Delaware, Hawaii, and North Carolina (all 2.8 percent) had the lowest rates, followed by Nebraska (2.9 percent). West Virginia (8.1 percent) and Louisiana (7.2 percent) had the highest rates.

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a November preliminary rate of 4.7 percent) had the sixth lowest jobless rate. This was one notch above the position held in October. The average unemployment rate of all 26 cities was 6.6 percent, up 0.1 percentage point from October. A year ago, the rate was 6.4 percent. There were nine cities with rates of 6 percent or below. The District of Columbia was in this grouping.

There were no double digiters in November. Detroit's rate fell from 12.2 percent in October to 9.6 percent in November, a 2.4 percent drop in joblessness in the Motor City. Over the year,

Detroit's rate was unchanged. Newark's rate which had been 10.0 percent in October fell to 9.6 percent in November, down 0.4 percentage point. Over the year, Newark's rate was up 2.1 percentage points.

Of the 26 selected central cities, over the month, only seven reported declines in joblessness. On the other hand, nineteen posted increases in unemployment. As was stated in October, the rate seems to be edging upwards. Los Angeles and New York both posted 1.1 percent increases. As previously mentioned, the largest over-the-month decrease was 2.4 percent in Detroit.

Over the year, the largest decline in joblessness was reported by New Orleans, 3.4 percent. The largest increase was the 2.1 percent recorded in Newark.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

MSA	November	
	1989*	1988
1. San Francisco, CA	3.2	4.0
2. Salt Lake City, UT	3.4	3.9
3. Boston, MA	3.9	3.6
4. Milwaukee, WI	4.5	3.8
5. Pittsburgh, PA	4.5	4.1
6. District of Columbia	4.7	4.4
7. Philadelphia, PA	5.4	5.0
8. Columbus, OH	5.4	5.0
9. Los Angeles, CA	5.8	5.0
10. Cincinnati, OH	6.1	5.7
11. Baltimore, MD	6.3	6.6
12. Houston, TX	6.4	6.3
13. New York, NY	6.5	4.9
14. Dallas, TX	6.5	6.2
15. Birmingham, AL	6.8	7.9
16. New Orleans, LA	7.0	10.4
17. Buffalo, NY	7.1	7.2
18. Miami, FL	7.5	6.9
19. St. Louis, MO	7.5	8.2
20. Atlanta, GA	7.6	7.0
21. Chicago, IL	7.9	7.9
22. Dayton, OH	8.2	7.2
23. Cleveland, OH	8.3	7.7
24. Gary, IN	9.4	9.3
25. Newark, NJ	9.6	7.5
26. Detroit, MI	9.8	9.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates.



UI Activities—December 1989

There were 3,710 initial claims taken in December 1989 for unemployment compensation benefits for former workers in the District of Columbia. This was 41 percent above the previous month. This surge in claims was due principally to the unseasonably cold weather in December, and its effects on construction and other outdoor activities. Other seasonal layoffs in retail trade also contributed to the increase. On the other hand, the monthly movement in weeks of joblessness claimed and weeks actually compensated declined 4 and 7 percent, respectively. Benefit outlay followed suit, dropping 7 percent over the month. There was virtually no change in the average weekly benefit. The monthly swings are similar to the movements last year in December. The total benefit outlay for the month was \$6.0 million.

Compared to December of last year, all measures for the total programs increased except weeks claimed and weeks compensated. This was somewhat expected based on the severity of the weather this year compared to last. The total outlay in December 1988 was \$5.7 million.

The fourth quarter of 1989 showed increases from 1988 in three of the four selected activities, and no change in initial claims. The quarterly

data indicate that 1986 was the peak year in general activity. Initial claims have declined steadily, and the average weekly benefit amount, as expected, has increased. Weeks compensated and total benefit outlay have been somewhat erratic.

The annual data for 1986 through 1989 indicate a general downward trend in workload (claims and weeks). The outlay in 1987 was slightly (+1.1 percent) above 1986, principally due to the increase in the average weekly benefit amount from \$162 to \$175 across the year. The number of idle weeks compensated in 1987 dropped 6 percent from the previous year. The increase in the average weekly benefit amount more than offset the workload decline and accounted for the outlay increase. Workload in 1988 was also down from 1987 and so was the total outlay—for the first time in the year-to-year comparisons to that point. Claims continued to decline from 1988 to 1989, but idle weeks compensated rose 9 percent. The \$79.8 million in 1989 outlay was the highest of any year in this series. This was expected, given the annual increase in legislated maximum weekly benefits amount from \$268 in 1988 to \$283 in 1989, along with its corresponding across-the-board increase in the scale of benefits.

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
December 1989

	% Change From				
	Dec. 1989	Nov. 1989	Dec. 1988	Nov. 1989	Dec. 1988
State UI Program ^a					
Initial Claims Taken	3,632	2,520	3,225	+44.1	+12.6
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	28,590	29,591	29,784	-3.4	-4.0
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	27,821	29,764	28,297	-6.5	-1.7
Total Benefits Paid	\$5,469,356	\$5,855,500	\$5,271,615	-6.6	+3.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$196.59	\$196.73	\$186.30	-0.1	+5.5
Number of First Payments	1,710	1,372	1,541	+24.6	+10.4
Number of Final Payments	799	822	792	-2.8	+0.9
Total Beneficiaries	8,448	7,847	8,251	+7.7	+2.4
Federal Program ^b					
Initial Claims Taken	51	81	89	-37.0	-42.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	1,827	2,136	2,048	-14.5	-10.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	1,999	2,301	1,991	-13.1	+0.4
Total Benefits Paid	\$448,990	\$516,713	\$413,018	-13.1	+8.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$224.61	\$224.56	\$207.44	+0.2	+8.3
Number of First Payments	70	108	100	-35.2	-30.0
Number of Final Payments	51	82	55	-37.8	-7.3
Total Beneficiaries	568	619	570	-8.2	-0.4
Ex-Servicepersons Program ^c					
Initial Claims Taken	24	27	22	-11.1	+9.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	268	293	263	-8.5	+1.9
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	231	226	215	+2.2	+7.4
Total Benefits Paid	\$49,843	\$48,895	\$41,605	+1.9	+19.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$215.77	\$216.35	\$193.51	-0.3	+11.5
Number of First Payments	20	25	20	-20.0	+0.0
Number of Final Payments	8	16	10	-50.0	-20.0
Total Beneficiaries	67	73	68	-8.2	-1.5
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,707	2,628	3,336	+41.1	+11.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	30,685	32,020	32,095	-4.2	-4.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	30,051	32,291	30,503	-6.9	-1.5
Total Benefits Paid	\$5,968,189	\$6,421,108	\$5,726,238	-7.1	+4.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$198.60	\$198.85	\$187.73	-0.1	+5.8
Number of First Payments	1,800	1,505	1,669	+19.6	+7.8
Number of Final Payments	858	920	857	-6.7	+0.1
Total Beneficiaries	9,083	8,539	8,889	+6.4	+2.2

a. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

c. No joint claims.

Personal Income of District Residents: Third Quarter 1989

On an annual basis, personal income of District residents in the third quarter 1989 totaled \$14.4 billion—up nearly \$1.5 billion or 7.8 percent from the third quarter 1988. Across the nation, the personal income of all Americans was up 8.5 percent. So, income of District residents between the third quarters of 1988 and 1989 increased less rapidly than for most Americans. However, measured from the first quarter 1987, the personal income of District residents has risen faster than the nation's by about one percentage point (see chart).

In the third quarter 1989, about sixty-five percent of all personal income of District residents came from work related earnings. This relationship was unchanged from the third quarter a year earlier. Income derived from dividends, interest and rents, however, increased by \$267 million or 13.3 percent over the year. Thus, the proportion of income coming from investments increased from 15.0 of all income in the third quarter 1988 to 15.8 percent in 1989. The smallest over-the-year change took place in transfer payments, which increased by \$90 million or 3.5 percent. As a result of this smaller increase, transfer payments constituted only 18.9 percent of all personal income in the third quarter 1989 as compared to 19.7 percent a year earlier. Nationally, transfer payments represented 14.4 percent

of personal income. Thus, transfer payments constitute a larger proportion of personal income in the District than in the U.S. economy. Unemployment compensation payments in the District during the third quarter 1989 comprised 0.37 percent of all income verses 0.32 percent nationally.

D.C. Minimum Wage For Workers In Retail Trade Increases

On January 30, 1990, the District's Wage-Hour Board increased the minimum wage for Retail Workers in the District of Columbia from \$3.50 per hour to \$4.50 per hour. The new rate becomes effective on April 1, 1990. The \$1.00 per hour raise represents a 29% increase in the C.P.I. since the rate was last revised in 1982.

The new rate will apply to 28,000 workers, in Standard Industrial Classifications:

- (52) Building materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers,
- (53) General merchandise stores,
- (54) Food stores,
- (55) Automotive dealers and gasoline service stations,
- (56) Apparel and accessory stores,
- (57) Home furniture, furnishings, and equipment stores, and
- (59) Miscellaneous retail.

For more information and copies of the wage order call the Department's Office of Wage-Hour, 576-6942.

Personal Income
The United States & The District of Columbia
Third Quarters of 1988 & 1989
(in million of dollars, seasonally adjusted annual rates)

	3 QTR '88	3 QTR '89	CHANGE	% CHANGE
UNITED STATES	\$4,085,272	\$4,433,078	\$347,806	8.5
THE DISTRICT	13,346	14,392	1,046	
	3 QTR '88	3 QTR '89	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Total Personal Income D.C.	\$13,346	\$14,392	\$1,046	7.8
Sources of D.C. Income				
Net Earnings by Place of Work*	8,717	9,402	685	7.9
Plus Dividends, Int., Rents	2,005	2,272	267	13.3
Plus Transfer Payments	2,624	2,718	94	3.6
UI Payments	53	53	0	0.0
Other Transfers	2,572	2,662	90	3.5

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Information System, January 1990.

*Adjusted for residency.

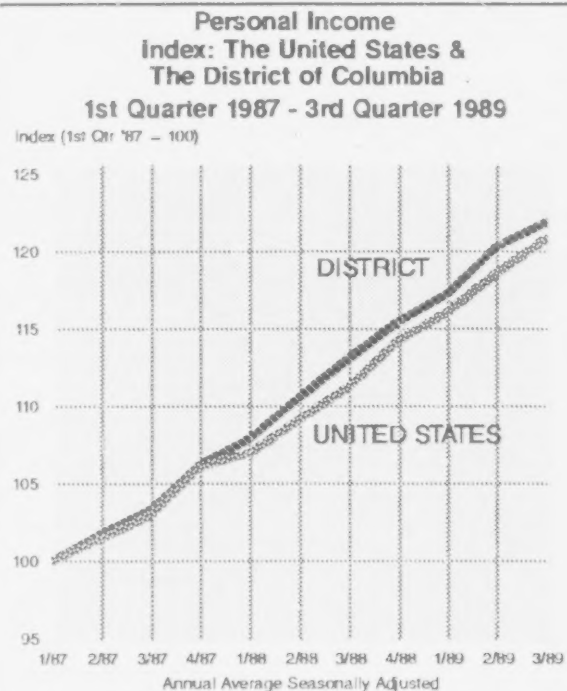
Hours and Earnings In Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for December 1989 decreased \$19.79. Average Weekly Hours dropped 1.8 hours. However, Average Hourly Earnings rose 6 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products reflect a decrease in Weekly Hours due to less overtime of 10.3 hours. Electric Machinery, Equipment and Supplies had less business, (other than seasonal), which caused the Average Weekly Hours to drop 1.5 hours.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products show a decrease in Weekly Hours of 3.1 hours due to complete or partial shut-down or layoffs because of unfavorable weather. The Average Hourly Earnings increased 57 cents due to overtime worked.

Printing and Publishing Weekly Hours were down 1.1 hours due to less overtime and Hourly Earnings dropped 7 cents.



Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing Washington Metropolitan Area December 1989

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1989	Nov. 1989	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1989	Nov. 1989	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1989	Nov. 1989	Dec. 1988
Total Manufacturing	461.63	481.42	453.82	37.5	39.3	39.6	12.31	12.25	11.46
Durable Goods	440.80	463.45	448.86	38.0	40.3	41.6	11.60	11.50	10.79
Stone Clay & Glass Products	458.28	561.60	482.46	41.7	52.0	43.0	10.99	10.80	11.22
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	527.88	544.38	472.68	41.5	43.0	40.4	12.72	12.66	11.70
Other Durable Goods	394.36	401.84	430.54	35.4	36.3	41.8	11.14	11.07	10.30
Non-Durable Goods	480.07	497.66	458.21	37.1	38.4	37.9	12.94	12.96	12.09
Food & Kindred Products	455.22	469.48	420.03	40.9	44.0	39.0	11.13	10.67	10.77
Printing & Publishing	500.91	520.45	485.58	35.4	36.6	36.4	14.15	14.22	13.34
Other Non-Durable Goods	408.94	422.14	368.94	41.9	42.9	43.1	9.76	9.84	8.56
Total Production Workers			Dec. 1989 39,100		Nov. 1989 39,300			Dec. 1988 43,900	

W A S H I N G T O N , D . C .

CENSUS '90



D.C. IS COUNTING ON YOU

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Look for them—Complete Them—Return Them
To Count—Be Counted



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MARION BARRY JR., MAYOR

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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